The People's Korea

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Mr. Mugabe's Message to DPRK President

President Kim Il Sung received a message of thanks from Prime Minister Robert G. Mugabe of the Republic of Zimbabwe, leaving Korea on January 23.

The message says:

Our visit provided us a priceless opportunity of further strengthening and developing the friendly relations and cooperation between our two non-aligned countries, particularly, achieving collective self-reliance of the developing countries through the practical realisation of South-South cooperation and further strengthening solidarity in our common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and apartheid.

In this connection, I sincerely believe that the special ministerial meeting of the non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation slated in Pyongyang in June this year in accordance with a decision of the summit conference of non-aligned countries held in Harare will make a practical contribution to the achievement of an effective unity and economic cooperation among the non-aligned countries.

I assure you, Comrade President, that our support for the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea will always remain steadfast.

Secretary Kim Jong Il Inspects Revolutionary Museum of KPA

Secretary Kim Jong Il on Jan. 19 inspected the Revolutionary Museum of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces.

He was accompanied by Ho Dam and Yon Hyong Muk, members of the Political Bureau, and secretaries, of the C.C., the WPK, O Guk Ryol, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and chief of general staff of the Korean People's Army, Kim Si Hak and Li Ha Il, members of the C.C., and department directors of the C.C., the WPK, Colonel General of the KPA Li Bong Won, member of the C.C., the WPK, Lieutenant General of the KPA Choe Sang Uk, member of the C.C., the WPK, and other officials concerned.

On display at the museum were historical materials telling the visitors that President Kim Il Sung indicated concrete direction and ways in each period and each stage of the developing revolution to found the Korean People's Army and strengthen and develop it into invincible revolutionary armed forces and has wisely guided the work for their implementation.

U.S., S. Korea to Stage Team Spirit 87

The United States and south Korea will stage their joint military exercise code-named "Team Spirit 87" from Feb. 19 to early May, the U.S.-south Korea Combined Forces Command (CFC), announced on Jan. 22.

More than 200,000 American and south Korean soldiers and a U.S. aircraft battle group will participate in the drill, CFC spokesman Col. Benjamin F. Waller, Jr. announced at a news conference.

During the exercise, he said, "Particular emphasis will be given to the improvement of ROK-U.S. force interoperability and teamwork."

The exercise will include the reception, staging, employment and redeployment of out-of-country U.S. forces, he said.

Last year, the DPRK announced that it would suspend major military exercises and stop all of them while north-south dialogues continued, calling on the U.S. and south Korea to follow suit.

However, the United States and south Korea staged the Team Spirit 86 maneuvers which made Pyongyang call off the Red Cross, economic and parliamentary talks.

It is reasonable that Pyongyang boycotted the planned talks as military exercises did not create a favourable atmosphere for talks and rapprochement. Team Spirit, in particular, is billed as the largest combined military exercise in the Western world.

How would Seoul react if the DPRK staged such large-scale military exercises with the Soviet Union or China while dialogues were in process?

Pyongyang has called the Team Spirit exercises "preliminary nuclear war" or "a nuclear test war," while Washington has insisted that they are "defensive in nature."

However, it was confirmed that the United States conducts nuclear weapons training in south Korea. "Nuclear Battlefields" written by William M. Arkin and Richard W. Fieldhouse says that U.S. training in tactical nuclear bombing with mock weapons that duplicate the weight and shape of real nuclear bombs takes place in south Korea and 11 other foreign countries, including Japan and West Germany. **(See also the House Armed Services Committee, FY 1982 Department of Defense)**

Quoting some official reports, they write in their book, "Much of the nuclear weapons training overseas is primarily related to the deployment of forces."

Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the WPK, wasted no time in responding to the announcement of the CFC spokesman.

The DPRK's most authoritative paper said in a Jan. 24 signed commentary that Team Spirit 87 is "a dangerous device of war, endangering peace in Korea and Asia and bringing the situation to the brink of war" and "an intolerable obstacle to our reasonable peace proposals for dialogues and peaceful reunification."

"There is no guarantee that the large-scale military exercises employing huge forces and military equipment which are massed in an area near the Military Demarcation Line will not spill over into an actual fighting against us any moment," said the commentary.

Meanwhile, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in a statement issued on Jan. 26 charged the United States, saying that it does not act up to its words. **(See page 4)**

When the DPRK proposed three-way talks involving the DPRK, the U.S.A. and south Korea to discuss tension-reducing measures, the United States took exception to the proposal by citing inter-Korea dialogues as a precondition.

When the DPRK was holding a series of north-south talks, the United States, which had so persistently stressed the need for inter-Korea dialogues, threw cold water on the talks by staging the Team Spirit 86 war game.

"The United States is planning to stage the Team Spirit joint military exercises again at this moment when our momentous proposal to solve the problems by holding high-level political

(Continued on page 8)

China Raps Team Spirit 87

China's quick response to the planned Team Spirit 87 came in a statement made by the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of China on Jan. 24.

He was quoted as saying: "We consistently consider that the large-scale joint military exercises of the United States and south Korea every year have further aggravated the tense atmosphere on the Korean Peninsula and exercised a very adverse effect on the improvement of the relations between the north and the south of Korea and on the solution of the question of Korea's peaceful reunification."

"We, therefore, oppose such large-scale military exercises," he added.

DPRK's New Proposal Receives Support

The Soviet Ambassador to the DPRK on Jan. 15 fully supported the DPRK's proposal for holding north-south high-level political and military talks put forward by President Kim Il Sung in his policy speech made at the First Session of the Eighth Supreme People's Assembly at the end of last year, in an interview with reporters at his embassy.

Urging the south Korean authorities to accede to the new proposal, Ambassador Nikolai Shubnikov said, "The proposal for holding north-south high-level political and military talks put forward by President Kim Il Sung in his policy speech this time was a constructive step to create a condition for national reunification."

Earlier on Jan. 7, Mr. Wojciech Jaruzelski, President of the Council of States of the Polish People's Republic, fully supported the reunification proposal of the DPRK, expressing solidarity with the stand of the Korean people, when he met O Man Sok, the DPRK Ambassador to his country.

Meanwhile, Mr. Didier Ratsiraka, President, and Mr. Desire Rakotoarjaona, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, expressed their full support for the DPRK proposal, in their meetings with the DPRK Ambassador to their country, Chong Tae Hwa, on Jan. 14 and Jan. 16 respectively.

On Jan. 21. Equatorial Guinean President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo said the new proposal of the DPRK "is a just one for the reunification of Korea, in a meeting with the charge d'affairs of the DPRK Embassy in his country.

Mr. Aleksandar Stanic, a spokesman for the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, at a press conference on Jan. 22, said that Yugoslavia welcomes the recent proposal of the DPRK advanced by President Kim Il Sung.

The General Secretary of the People's National Party of Jamaica, Pol Robertson, also expressed his support for the proposal for north-south high-level political and military talks in a message of solidarity to President Kim Il Sung.

Mr. Wakabayashi Hiroshi, general secretary of the Japan Committee for supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, on Jan. 27 supported the DPRK proposal in an interview with reporters of the Korean Central News Agency in Pyongyang.

DPRK Delegates Urge US to Cancel the Plan

A joint meeting of the delegations of the north side to north-south talks held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on Jan. 28 adopted a joint statement calling on the United States to cancel the Team Spirit 87 joint war game.

The joint statement said that Washington and Seoul intend to seek a "sinister purpose to further perfect nuclear war preparations in south Korea and blackmail and threaten the south Korean people by force of arms in an effort to bridge over the crisis of the shaking colonial fascist rule and keep south Korea as a military base and nuclear forward base for aggression."

It charged the Chun junta with using the Team Spirit 87 joint military exercise to suppress the patriotic action of the south Korean students and people of different segments and to prolong its rule.

It urged the United States to give up its plan to hold the war game at once.

It also called on Seoul to concede to the proposal for high-level political and military talks.

SR-71s Commit Espionage 14 Times in Jan.

The United States infiltrated an SR-71 into the air above the territorial waters of the DPRK east of Kosong at around 14:21 on Jan. 29 and sent it again into the sky above the coastal waters of the West Sea south of Kangryong Peninsula at around 14:41, reported the KCNA that day.

"Such acts of aerial espionage of the United States were committed on Jan. 26 and 27 consecutively, bringing the number of the cases to 14 in January," it added.

Last year, SR-71s violated the DPRK airspace 170 times to conduct espionage.

Stories on Mr. Kim Jong Il (9)

Economic Construction in Our Way

(Continued from the previous issue)

Secretary Kim Jong Il took charge of an all-people struggle to effect a new upsurge in socialist economic construction, while strengthening the unity and cohesion of the party and the masses of people.

The immediate task was to carry through the second Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule. Fulfillment of the second Seven-Year Plan would lead to an increased might of the self-supporting national economy, supply the more powerful physical wherewithal to the party determined to live in our way and pose as a not-distant future problem the construction of a completely victorious socialist society.

Secretary Kim Jong Il, in accordance with the policy advanced by President Kim Il Sung at the 17th Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Party, first focussed his attention on coal mining.

The following remarks were made by the Secretary at the November 10, 1978 conference of senior executives of the Party Central Committee:

"Increased production of coal carries very great importance to placing production on a normal place in all the fields of the national economy and enhancing the living standards of the people. Only by boosting coal production is it possible to work out the difficult question of fuels and energy, rapidly increase production in all the domains of the national economy and carry out with success all the gigantic tasks envisaged in the second Seven-Year Plan."

A drive was launched to make the Anju Colliery a fine model of comprehensive mechanization and modernize and mechanize all the other collieries on an overall basis by leading them to emulate the Anju example. This campaign involved massive shipments to the collieries of up-to-date machinery such as advanced drills, loaders, hydraulic mechanized prop system, heavy-duty chain conveyors and winches.

These multisided steps taken under the leadership of the Secretary resulted in a revolution taking place in coal mining. With the introduction of heavy-duty and modernized coal-cutters and the overall mechanization of in-pit operations, the coal miners became able to use high-performance machines in well-lit deep pits, increasing coal output with greater ease.

While finding a satisfactory answer to the question of coal, food for industry, Secretary Kim Jong Il paid deep attention to increasing the production of iron ore.

The Secretary, who had led the construction of a long-distance ore pipeline at the Musan Mine and a heavy-duty belt conveyor at the Unryul Mine, both designed to serve the long-term economic purposes of the country, not only extensively enlarged the mines at that time but also took steps to increase output at the Tokhyon Mine.

The Tokhyon Mine had previously accomplished its original economic plan assignments, but a poor labor redistribution and management on the part of some executives caused a sharp decrease in its iron ore production, which in turn adversely affected its related metallurgical factories. Informed of this development, the Secretary called a conference of North Pyongyang Provincial Party secretaries and sternly criticized the executives in the province for diverting the mine's manpower to other divisions in contravention of the party's economic policy and advanced a number of steps to remove the aftermath. He summoned the local provincial party secretary concerned and said as follows:

"You must live in the Tokhyon Mine for several months during which you must strive to rectify disruption in production, recover its earlier level of iron ore production and boost it by a large margin.

"The party center will do its best to assist in your efforts."

From that time on, the mine became an object of the Secretary's great attention. Highly-qualified economic experts were sent by the Secretary to the mine to help bring the mine to normal and at the same time the party organizations, plants and enterprises in the province were ordered to provide positive assistance to the mine. Large quantities of machinery and equipment, including a remote-control system to be installed at its dressing center, were supplied to the mine to retool it with modern technology. Thus an unprecedented innovation was effected in the mine's iron-ore production, which made it possible for the mine to rank among the nation's iron-ore producers.

It was in the summer of a certain year.

One senior official in charge of economic work called on Secretary Kim Jong Il in his office. His visit was to report on how economic work was.

At that time, some smelteries were operating below capacity simply because some units failed to provide raw materials in time. Some plants in the processing industry were unable to harness their potential capacity for lack of certain processes, though they had sufficient amounts of raw materials and equipment at hand.

The senior official, while reporting on such state of affairs, suggested that the smelteries operating under capacity for shortage of raw materials should either be given an additional assignment and that the processing plants concerned should be ordered to transfer provisionally its idle manpower to other plants of the processing industry.

Attentively listening to his report, the Secretary thought for a while and asked in a grave tone whether he had ever imagined what would happen to the building of socialism if his proposal were put into practice. The official was at a loss for an answer. The Secretary expressed a concern that an assignment of new production tasks instead of providing the raw materials as demanded by the plants and enterprises for increased production would reduce the basic production index and that curtailment of manpower instead of making up for the absence of certain production processes would aggravate the situation further.

He said as follows:

"Economic work should be approached from a subjective standpoint, as it is in the long-term interests of the state.

"Activists in charge of economic affairs should never be swayed by a subjective thinking in disregard of the requirements of the developing realities.

"We must try to search for a key to the question and a way to solve it on the basis of the President's teachings and the policy of the Party.

"Long ago the President advanced the policy of developing the processing industry. I think that a thorough application of this policy would settle not a few problems raised for the moment in economic affairs."

His specific recommendation was that the amount of raw materials which was needed by the smelteries should be imported and processed first to meet the domestic demand and then to export the surplus for foreign exchange to buy from abroad the equipment in shortage.

Three months later, the Secretary was extremely pleased with the progress in the work and the results achieved when he was reported on them. He suggested that a medium-sized furnace should be added to several smelteries each on the east and west shores in order to boost their combined processing capacity on the basis of the achieved results. His idea was bold and reasonable. His thinking was that production capacity as large as that of a major smeltery could be created at a lower cost in terms of equipment, funds and manpower simple by building new small smelting furnaces, one at each smeltery.

Thus the second Seven-Year Plan was carried out at a quick rate. In 1987 industrial production grew by 17 percent as against the previous year and in 1979 it registered an annual growth of 15 percent, and as many as 3,000 construction projects were completed, with remarkable progress made in the Juche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy. In the countryside, a long spell of abnormal weather was kept under control, which led to the production of 9 million tons of grain. It became already certain that the new prospective plan would be accomplished ahead of schedule.

"Let's live in our way!" a slogan propounded by Secretary Kim Jong Il found its way into living realities in economic construction as well, thanks to his prompt and effective personal leadership.

(To be continued)

Need to Prevent Nuclear War and Defend World Peace

By Song Jae Ryong
Editor

In his historic policy speech made on Dec. 30, last year, President Kim Il Sung clarified again the need to prevent a nuclear war and defend peace and security in the world.

The DPRK President said: "Preventing a nuclear war and defending peace is the solemn task of the present times."

His remark is greatly concerned with the present serious situation when the danger of nuclear war is growing, threatening mankind and its civilization.

The imperialists' moves towards aggression and war are rendering the international situation more tense and increasing the crisis of nuclear war in various parts of the world, particularly on the Korean Peninsula.

As is well known, the imperialists are seeking to conquer world supremacy by means of nuclear war.

Now the U.S.-headed imperialists have deployed a large number of nuclear weapons and armed troops in all parts of the world, ceaselessly conducting nuclear war exercises. As of the end of September 1986, the U.S. deploys its soldiers in 133 foreign countries. **(Air Force Times, Jan. 5, 1987)**

Under the situation, to prevent a nuclear war and defend peace is not a question confined to the people of a particular country, but is a solemn task facing mankind.

War must be prevented in the stage of preparations. Particularly, today, when the armed forces are equipped with ultra-modern science and technology, weapons and equipment, and when computer systems are fully utilized in war, it is practically impossible to prevent it, once a war should break out. It is because of this that the cause of a third world war and a nuclear war is in its preparations.

One million tons of TNT is known as a megaton. A grand total of over three megatons of non-nuclear explosives were used in World War II from 1941 to 1945. Today, nuclear bombs of up to 20 megatons each are poised for use.

To carry out the solemn task, we must fight to prohibit the testing, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, to prevent the militarization of space, to reduce different kinds of nuclear weapons and to abolish all nuclear weapons completely.

And it is an important way of preventing a nuclear war and defending peace to establish non-nuclear, peace zones and expand them on a worldwide scale.

In order to prevent a nuclear war and defend peace at the present times, it is urgently needed to guarantee peace on the Korean Peninsula. This is of utmost importance for the sake of easing the situation in the Asia-Pacific region, relaxing international tension and removing the danger of a global nuclear war.

We solemnly draw the attention of the world peace-loving people to the fact that the danger of nuclear war hovers over the Korean Peninsula.

More than 30 years have passed since the Korean Armistice Agreement was concluded. However, a lasting peace is yet to be attained. On the contrary, the likelihood of a nuclear war seems to be increasing on the peninsula.

According to "Defense 86", an almanac published by the Department of Defense, the number of U.S. soldiers stationed in south Korea increased by 3,766 from 41,392 in 1985 to 45,158 in 1986. It is said that more than 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed in south Korea and that in recent years 50 or more neutron bombs known as "devil's weapons in the 20th century" and back-pack nukes for special operational units have been brought there. **(See The People's Korea Dec. 13, 1986)**

Furthermore, the U.S. plans to build 36 underground nuclear weapons storage facilities at Kunsan Air Base in south Korea.

All the nuclear weapons and U.S. troops must be withdrawn from south Korea and non-nuclear, peace zones be established on the Korean Peninsula and in every vital area throughout the world.

If the danger of nuclear war is to be removed from the Korean Peninsula, it is needed to be turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

We actively support the peace proposals advanced by the USSR and other socialist countries to prevent a nuclear war and defend world peace and security. We also support the European socialist countries and their struggle to establish non-nuclear peace zones in the Balkans, Europe, Africa, the Mideast, the Indian Ocean, the South Pacific and other parts of the world.

In this context it must be borne in mind that recently the Reagan administration has been plotting to complete the formation of a U.S.-Japan-south Korea axis military alliance.

And the sophisticated weapons so far deployed for the annually-staged Team Spirit joint military exercises which are virtually a "nuclear test-war" against the Korean people, include the Lance Missiles, the nuclear-powered Enterprise and aircraft carrier Midway, nuclear-capable F-15s and F-16s, and ground-attack and support UH60 black hawk helicopters and A 10 tank killers.

Huge hostile armed forces stand face to face in sharp confrontation on both sides of the DMZ.

Particularly, the cause of our considerable anxiety is that the Washington and Seoul authorities are going to conduct the "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercises off and on the coast of the Korean Peninsula from Feb. 19 to early May this year. It runs counter to the new proposal for holding north-south high-level political and military talks aimed at easing the strained tensions on the peninsula and constitutes a challenge to the peace and security of the Far East and the world.

Owing to these facts, the present situation is strained so extremely that a small accidental incident might trigger a war, and that a nuclear war any time.

We must make every effort possible to ease tensions in the Far East and the world.

From these points it is urgently required for the north-south high-level political and military talks to be held to make a breakthrough in easing the tension on the Korean Peninsula and solving the reunification question which will contribute to peace and security in the world.

DPRK's Economic Successes in 1986

Last year, the DPRK made all efforts to energetically expedite socialist economic construction and to contribute to improving the people's standard of living under the outstanding leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Secretary Kim Jong Il.

Korea has been tackling the task of hitting the 10 long-term objectives for socialist construction which were put forward at the Sixth Party Congress in October 1980.

Meanwhile, last year was the fifth year since four magnificent projects were started to transform nature projects which were put forward at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in October 1981. These projects were large-scale ones, including the Nampo Barrage (later renamed the West Sea Barrage), the Taechon Power Station, reclamation of 300,000 hectares of tideland and improvement of 200,000 hectares of land.

A big success was made last year in the barrage construction, which made it possible to utilize the Taedong and Chongchon Rivers in an integrated way.

The West Sea Barrage, the biggest one of its kind in the world, with three locks and 36 sluices in an eight kilometer section of the rough sea and the Hyangsan and Tongam Barrages have been completed.

The final section in the tideland reclamation project on Ung and Chang islands have been completed to obtain 5,800 hectares of new land. Other tideland reclamation projects have made big headway to change the appearance of the land.

Industrial construction was also accelerated. The Changdong Coal Mine, the Saenal Electric Factory, the September 18 Factory, the Pyongsong Aeguk Bag Factory, the Wonsan Brewery and other factories have been commissioned. And railway electrification in the Sepo-Pyonggang and Namdokchon-Toknam sections have been completed.

Signal successes were registered in the construction of such major objects as the Anju District Coal Mining Complex and the Musan Mining Complex, the second-stage project of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the Tanchon Magnesia Clinker Factory expansion project, the Sunchon Vinalon Complex, the Taechon Power Station and the Wiwon Power Station.

The Myohyangsan Hotel, Kim Man Yu Hospital, Chongju Youth Gymnasium, Chongjin Students and Children's Palace, Yanggak Bridge and many other monumental edifices have been built and cities and rural villages arranged on modern lines.

Successes have also been made in the construction of Kwangbok Street, the Angol Sports Village, the Rungrado Stadium and the Rungra Bridge to be erected as monumental edifices of the 80s and in other construction projects in Pyongyang.

The Korean people are pushing ahead with socialist economic construction in the New Year 1987. This year is the first year of the third Seven-Year Plan, which was decided at the 12th Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in Pyongyang on Dec. 27, 1986.

During the period of the plan, the Korean people's standard of living will be raised more than it was during the second Seven-Year Plan (1978-1984) period.

Introduced here are some photos showing the DPRK's major successes in socialist economic construction last year:

◀ Photo shows a direct sale store in Pyongchon district, Pyongyang.

The numbers of daily necessaries shops and workteams, housewives' workteams and sideline workteams have sharply increased in the DPRK.

The goods produced are marketed at district direct sale stores.

Such direct sale stores are to be found in all cities and counties (districts).

They number more than 200 throughout the country.

The 15-story Myohyangsan Hotel was built like a triangular tower. This unique hotel is equipped with an observation elevator in the center.

▲ A rich harvest has visited last year the Chongsan Cooperative Farm.

It has overfulfilled last year's production plan, 100.5 percent in crops, 104 percent in vegetables, 137 percent in meat, 101 percent in eggs, 100.2 percent in fruit and 107.4 percent in cocoons.

Last year's farming was summed up and an average of 11.5 tons of grain and a large sum of money were shared out to ease member household on Nov. 30, 1986.

▼ The West Sea Barrage was completed in June 1986.

It consists of a main dam, 3 locks and 36 spillways and auxiliary spillways. A railway, a motorway and a walkway run alongside the dam.

It has been built across an 8-km section of rough sea in a short period of five years.

The dam is said to be the longest in the world.

DPRK Urges Washington, Seoul to "Unconditionally" Cancel Team Spirit 87 War Game against Dialogue and Peace in Korea

The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, a supraparti-san organization of the DPRK, in its statement issued on Jan. 26 strongly urged Washington and Seoul to "unconditionally cancel the plan of Team Spirit 87 joint military exercises directed against dialogue and peace and refrain from any act aggravating tensions on the Korean Peninsula," according to the official KCNA report.

The statement recalled the announcement of the U.S. and south Korea that they would mobilize in the Team Spirit 87 joint military exercises covering the period from Feb. 19 to early May vast forces more than 200,000 strong including units of the U.S. forces in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific, those in south Korea and the "ROK" army.

It summarily said:

* * *

Some time ago we put forward a new epochal proposal for holding north-south high-level political and military talks in order to ease the acute tensions on the Korean Peninsula and create a favourable situation for peace and peaceful reunification and, for its realisation, sent a letter containing concrete proposals to the south Korean side.

The announcement of the Team Spirit 87 plan by the U.S. and the Chun junta is an intolerable challenge to these reasonable peace proposal and patient efforts for peace on our part.

The grave situation now prevailing in our country urgently demands that the south Korean authorities accept our new peaceful proposal and sit at the negotiating table with us for the relaxation of tension.

Nevertheless, the south Koreans are planning to start a large-scale military racket opposing the fellow countrymen and aggravating tensions in league with outside forces, paying no heed to the important national tasks which should be accomplished by common efforts with the fellow countrymen. It is a monstrous treachery never to be condoned.

By ignoring the peace proposal of nearby fellow countrymen and following the aggressive war policy of the U.S. far off, they make it self-evident that they are despicable traitors who hold the interests of foreign aggressive forces dearer than the interests of the nation and rather dance to the tune of the powder-reeking war trumpet of the outside forces than responding to the generous call of the fellow countrymen.

Since the U.S. is scheming to stage again aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercises against us, we think it proper to sound warnings to the United States, too.

The Team Spirit joint military exercises, which the United States plans and commands and in which the U.S. armed forces act the main force, are a chief factor aggravating tensions on the Korean Peninsula and bringing the situation to the brink of war.

Already long ago we repeatedly proposed negotiation to the United States in order to ease tensions and ensure a durable peace on the Korean Peninsula and create preconditions for peaceful reunification and, in recent years, we proposed tripartite talks involving us, the United States and south Korea.

But the United States, shunning these proposals of ours, put forth "north-south direct dialogue" as the precondition.

But, when we initiated north-south dialogues and sat face to face with the south Korean side, the United States, which had so persistently called for "north-south direct dialogues", did not hesitate to bring to suspension multi-channelled north-south dialogues with the Team Spirit military exercises, while laying artificial obstacles in their way and throwing a wet blanket over them.

The United States is planning to stage the Team Spirit joint military exercises again at this moment when our momentous proposal to solve problems by holding high-level political and military talks between north and south is on the order of the day. This proves that the "north-south direct dialogue" cried for by them is a lie and, in actuality, they do not want any dialogue.

The U.S. schemes to hold the Team Spirit joint military exercises in disregard of the dialogue, detente and peace on the Korean Peninsula is aimed at keeping hold on south Korea as their colony and using it as an aggressive military base, a nuclear forward base, by occupying it militarily.

The U.S. and the south Koreans intend to drag on the military exercises till early May this year, extending it longer than the previous years. This reveals their stratagem to threaten the students and people in spring when the confrontation grows most acute between the democratic and fascist forces in south Korea and, in particular, to block at any cost the massive action of the people in May, the month when the Kwangju Uprising broke out.

But the U.S. and the south Koreans must not miscalculate.

They must know that they will get nothing from the war racket, as they can convince no one with the fiction of "threat from the north."

The United States must give up the anachronistic desire to hold on south Korea as its colony indefinitely and go back to its den, taking along its aggressive troops and nuclear weapons.

The south Korean authorities must not oppose their fellow countrymen by joining in the aggressive Team Spirit joint military exercises of the U.S. but promptly respond to our proposal of north-south high-level political and military talks for detente and reunification, they must not commit nation-butchery, suppressing and slaughtering the south Korean students and people, their fellow counterymen, but renounce the anti-communist and fascist moves at once.

U.S. and south Korean armed forces storm ashore on landing vehicles as the provocative Team Spirit 85 joint military exercise reaches a climax in a landing operation at Pohang, about 170-miles south-east of Seoul on March 20, 1985. (Reuter)

Arrested NKDP Legislator Defends Reunion Policy

The first public hearing for opposition lawmaker Yu Song Hwan was held in Seoul on Jan. 19.

Yu, parliamentarian of the New Korea Democratic Party, was arrested in October last year as he in a question at a national assembly regular session said that national reunification rather than anti-communism should be the aim of national policy.

Recalling his speech to defend a unification-oriented state policy, he said, "I believe that unification is a national task which must be placed above any political and ideological concepts."

"Taking issue with my remarks made out of such a belief, the present regime deprived me, an incumbent assemblyman, of all rights including the privilege of immunity from responsibility for my parliamentary speech guaranteed by the constitution and made me stand at the court. This is an overt political repression and an infantile show," he said.

He was convicted on alleged charges of violating the "National Security Law" as his remarks, the police said, were associated with the "enemy", which meant north Korea.

Kim Dae Jung's 42nd House Arrest

South Korea's best known dissident leader Kim Dae Jung was again placed under house arrest on Jan. 26.

Kim's house was sealed off by a police squadron when he attempted to attend a ceremony to inaugurate a committee for a memorial rally for Pak Chong Chol who was tortured to death on Jan. 14.

Some 300 riot police threw a strict cordon around the half for the ceremony, according to reports from Seoul.

This is the third house confinement imposed upon Kim Dae Jung this year, or 42nd since his return from the United States to Seoul.

CBS TV Program On "Torture" Sudden Interrupted

A special TV program of south Korea's Christian Broadcasting Service (CBS) on Jan. 26 was abruptly interrupted in the midst of broadcasting and changed to a music program, casting doubt on the background and provoking protest from the TV audience.

CBS's "Monday Program", a weekly feature program, which started at 2:00 p.m. suddenly turned into a music program at around 3:10 p.m. though it was scheduled to last until 4:00 p.m.

"Monday Program" has been dealing with social issues since April 1984 with the participation of TV viewers. That day, the program was on air under the title – "Torture Must Be Abolished" – with the Rev. Kim Young Un as the moderator, with two guests, Pyon Jong Su, lawyer, and Kim Il Su, professor of Korea University.

Soon after interviews with the citizens who testified cases of torture, following a speech by the Rev. Kim, who serves as chairman of the NCC (National Christian Council) Committee for Countermeasure of Torture, the broadcast was suddenly discontinued in the midst of a telephone interview with a citizen.

The CBS authorities reportedly said the suspension of the program was due to "pressure from outside," saying that they could not telecast a feature program which they planned to deal with "rumour issues" at the end of last year due to the same reason.

3 Press Dissidents Indicted for Scooping Secret

South Korean three dissidents, including a reporter, were formally indicted on Jan. 28 for scooping the Seoul authorities' interference with the mass media to control the public opinion.

The charges of the three, who were earlier arrested in December last year, were the violation of the tough National Security Law.

One of them is Kim Chu On, a reporter of the daily Hankook Ilbo and the others are Kim Tae Hon and Shin Hong Bom who served as senior officials of "Mal," an organ of the Conference of Democratic Press Movement, a dissident organization consisting of expelled journalists.

Its special issue dated Sep. 6 revealed the existence of a "Reporting Guide-Line" which the dictatorial regime made to tell how incidents or news stories should be treated by newspapers, TV network and others.

The "guideline," which has been released every day gives surprisingly detailed instructions – on which page, in what size, wording used in headlines, use of radical and violent photos, on how authorities analytic all data should be supplemented with boxed stories, etc.

Torture Death Shakes South Korea

"No citizen shall be tortured or compelled to testify against himself." – No modern state drops this people's right in its criminal code. But it is also true that there are some governments reluctant to respect law.

The revelation of the water torture death of a south Korean student by police interrogators last month reaffirmed that the Seoul regime of Gen. Chun Doo Hwan belongs to the latter category.

In place of the victim's father, who said "There's nothing I can say," the south Korean people now have much to say.

The last seven years of the dictatorial regime have witnessed a series of police torture cases, even resulting in the death of victims, and the latest one took place on Jan. 14 with the death of Pak Chong Chol, a student from Seoul National University during an interrogation to discover the whereabouts of other "wanted" students.

Critics of the regime, which has continued to use cruel and coercive practices as an extra-legal means of extracting information, true or false, from what it terms criminal suspects, hold that the case is only one small tip of a very big iceberg.

As a matter of fact, world-wide known Amnesty International, continually referred to Seoul as a human-right violating nation in its annual reports, has accused it of using water torture, electric shocks, beatings and sleep deprivation to soften up interrogation subjects.

What redoubled people's uproar over the incident was, besides the fatal brutality, both police's attempt to cover up the case and false announcement of "shock death" and the prosecution's sloppy probe, which produced a statement that only water torture was inflicted and that the student died of suffocation accidentally.

Dissident groups maintain that Pak was tortured with electric shocks as well as with water, pointing out a number of bruises found on his body, including a pingpong-large clot of blood in the lung.

(An MP of the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party is reported to have said Yun Chun Jun, director of the National Institute for Scientific Investigation which conducted the autopsy of Pak's body, did not tell the police that Pak suffocated due to pressure applied to his neck.)

The haste with which the police autopsied and cremated the corpse (two days after his death) and the failure of the prosecution to stage an open-public enacting of the incident, a usual step as a required procedure for indictment, fueled this speculation.

"People suspect that many things about the torture death are still being withheld. The prosecution's refusal to go public with on-the-spot examination can hardly win the people's confidence," noted a south Korean lawyer.

In fact, oppositionists such as students and workers were found to assemble on many places to mourn Pak's death and chant slogans, "Down with torture police," despite a winter month when protest activity is usually at a low ebb.

Alarmed by the growing public outcry, police decided to ban any form of indoor or outdoor rallies, and as a result, some 300 riot police blockade made it impossible to inaugurate an organizing committee for a national memorial service for Pak Chong Chol.

But the committee which is said to have 9,800 members, started functioning when dissident figures gathered at the headquarters of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy without any previous notice, and decided the 7th of Feb. to be "A Day for a National Memorial Service for Pak Chong Chol."

In another development of police-order defiant moves, some 4,000 believers and others staged a "silent" demonstration in central Seoul after holding a prayer meeting for the torture victim.

A political analyst said, "People's pent-up dissatisfaction with a decades-long history of police atrocities prompted them to ignore the police order."

In a bid to palliate people's mounting anger, Gen. Chun expressed his "regret" over the episode by sacking a home minister and a director general of the national police in an unusually quick manner, and the two policemen who killed Pak directly by torture were indicted on Jan. 24.

"But, no one will ever think that the worst form of human behavior has been put to an end," said the south Korean English daily Korea Times (Jan. 24)

In addition, Chun called for the founding of a watchdog body against the recurrence of torture.

An expert familiar with south Korean affairs noted, "It is merely a gesture to show his concern over the incident and quell the public tumult."

At a special National Assembly session begun on Jan. 26 at the strong request of opposition parties – at first the ruling party loathed to comply with it – the large division of views on a proposed special committee led to a sit-in protest by 70 NKDP lawmakers, who demanded that a special panel be empowered to exercise the parliamentary prerogative to investigate state affaires. The three-day session ended without any headway.

Since the disclosure of the shocking torture incident, south Korean papers have been playing it up, analyzing why torture cannot be eradicated from the society.

The reasons often mentioned are 1) investigators compete for reward; 2) tortured people are not allowed to see family during investigation; 3) "criminals" have no access to counsel; (4) investigators think that torture in a closed room is not leaked outside and that, if so, they are not indicted because of "lack of evidence."

But the primary cause of the vicious circles of violence lies much deeper. As a NKDP parliamentarian put it; This is because the Chun regime is "illegitimate."

"The level of Seoul's morality and ethics is disclosed in the fact that the branch office of the anti-communist investigation bureau where Pak was killed by police torture has a bathtub and a bed though it is unmistakingly not a hotel," said an observer.

Some 200 students of Seoul National University march on Jan. 20 toward the main gate of the school after a memorial service for Pak Chong Chol, a student of the university who was tortured to death during interrogation at a police facility on Jan. 14. (AP Radiophoto)

Dong-A Ilbo (Jan. 19)

A number of priests, sisters and young Christians march toward the city after a mass for the death of Pak Chong Chol held at the Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul on Jan. 26. They confront with riot police for nearly two hours at the main gate of the cathedral. (Chosun Ilbo, Jan. 27)

Testimonies of the Tortured

Torture has been rampant in south Korea as shown by the latest case of Pak Chong Chol.

Here are two testimonies of people who had torture inflicted on them.

Kim Kun Tae, ex-president of the Federation of Democratic Youth

I was subjected to both electric and water torture for five hours a day during the period from Sept. 4-20 (1985).

Electric torture was mainly used against me and water torture was inflicted to ease shocks generating from the electric torture.

The volume of a radio was turned up to prevent my painful screams from being heard outside of the torture room. As I had a swollen throat owing to screaming again and again, the interrogators forced me to swallow medicine to ease the inflammation on my throat.

During the torture I was stripped naked and blindfolded.

Then, I was laid on the torture bed with my hands and feet tied to it.

Completely binding ankles, knees, thighs, belly and chest, a blanket was laid under my body. Water was poured on my head, chest and groin so that the electric shocks effectively went through my body with sources of electricity connected with my legs.

At the beginning, the current was weak and short, but later it became stronger and longer. Strong and weak electric currents were repeatedly inflicted on my whole body one after another during the torture.

I keenly realized how it is difficult to keep my determination to defy the torture as a human being, and murmered a song "I Want to Choose Death by Standing Rather Than Life Kneeling Down" during the electric torture.

I imagined the Auschwitz concentration camp whenever the dark shadow of death hung down in front of me, and despair of such an inhuman situation made me shudder...

(From the statement made at the first trial, Dec. 19, 1985)

Kwon In Suk, who was subjected to sexual torture

Several interrogators asked me if I knew those concerned in the May 3 incident including Yan Sung Jo and members of the Struggle Committee of Inchon Workers.

They threatened me, saying that if I told them the names of persons connected with the case, they would send me home at once, otherwise to 10-20 years imprisonment.

I told them that I knew of none of the names. They tried to persuade me several times. But as I insisted on not having any information, Mun Gui Dong (chief of the interrogation team) said, "Take your clothes off", "Kneel down," "Tell me the names of those who called at your home," showing me the list of those concerned in the May 3 case.

They interrogated me persistently. Then, they began to take my blouse off, pulled my brassiere up, touched my breast and pulled the zipper of my pants down...

Next day at 9:00 am I was taken to a detective chiefs room with ten-odd interrogators in it.

A man said, "Miss Kwon, there might be awkward results if you don't cooperate with us. Treatment of you might be changed."

He told Mun Gui Dong to question me in "such a way."

At that night 9:00 p.m. Mun called me to him and gave instructions to the others to bring torture instrument to his interrogation room.

He shackled my hands on the back and said, "Take your shirt off, kneel down."

He took my blouse and T-shirt off and pulled up my brassiere...

In the interrogation room no lights were turned on, and they repeatedly inflicted such disgraceful conduct on me and urged me to confess, showing me the list they brought.

During the time they turned on the light only when they showed the list.

As I said that I didn't know any of them, they inflicted the scandalous conducted again and again, turning off the lights each time.

I resisted for two hours by screaming and struggling so that my knees were worn out.

(From Miss Kwon's deposition from the first trial, Oct. 13, 1985)

DPRK-Japan Symposium On Migration Held in Tokyo

The DPRK-Japan Migration Symposium held at Choson University in Tokyo. Some 100 personages concerned attended.

The DPRK-Japan Migration Symposium was held on Jan. 24 at Choson University, a suburb of Tokyo, under the joint sponsorship of Choson University, the Japan Migration Committee and Kyoiku-sha Company which publishes the science magazine "Newtone."

The symposium was attended by officials of the DPRK and Japanese experts.

Three DPRK zoologists headed by Pak U Il, vice chairman of the Institute of Zoology of the DPRK Academy of Sciences, were invited to the symposium.

Among the Japanese guests were Mr. Kuroda Nagahisa, chairman of the Japan Ornithology Society and Iwatare Sukio, chief secretary of the Japan National Protection Federation.

The symposium heard reports made by DPRK ornithologist Pak U Il "On Kinds of Cranes Distributed in the DPRK"; Mr. Kamokawa Makoto, member of the Nagasaki branch of the Japan Wild Fowl Committee "Flyway of Cranes"; Yoshi Tadashi, chief of the Institute on Marks of the Yamashina Institute of Feathers "Investigation of Marks of Japanese Birds" and so on.

A large number of migration have come and gone between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. However, since the DPRK and Japan has no diplomatic ties, information exchanges on migration have not been conducted so far.

At the symposium flyway of cranes in the DPRK was unveiled for the first time.

Leg rings which were banded on cranes' legs at Izumi City, Kagoshima Prefecture, Japan were discovered in the DPRK and were returned to the Japanese side.

Thanks to the efforts of the experts of both countries progress has been made to create a network to protect migration throughout Korea, Japan, China and the Soviet Union.

According to the Environment Agency of Japan, three fourths of some 500 kinds of birds inhabiting Japan are migration. Two thirds among these migration come and go between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

For the sake of research into migration and protection of wild fowl in East Asia, it is an important point to understand the present situation of wild fowl on the Korean Peninsula.

Noticeable is the confirmation of flyway of cranes in the DPRK. According to the investigation of Mr. Pak, some 6,000 hooded cranes breeding in the tributary streams of the River Lena (USSR) and the basin of the Amur and Ussuri come over to Izumi City, Kagoshima Prefecture and the Yashiro area in Yamaguchi Prefecture of Japan via the west coast of the Korean Peninsula to stay over the coldest seasons.

These hooded cranes have been found at 10 places including South Hwanghae Province in the DPRK. They have not been found in south Korea yet. In March hooded cranes are believed to leave Kyushu area and Yamaguchi Prefecture of Japan and fly to South Hwanghae Province, 500-600 km way, after stopping over in Tsushima Island for a short rest.

In the skies of resting places some 1,500 cranes pass through with 30-100 cranes as a unit for 10 days from March 20 every year.

In case of bad weather, they fly down for a rest for two or three days.

Leg rings returned to Japan was No. J03. According to the Yamashina Institute of Feathers in charge of the investigation of marks under the Agency of Environment of Japan these leg rings were banded to cranes at Izumi City, Kagoshima Prefecture in 1984.

Only leg rings were found in March 1985 at a rice field of Paekchon County, South Hwanghae Province. It was the first time that leg rings banded in Japan were discovered in the DPRK.

So far, white-naped cranes banded by leg rings No. J17 of Japan were found in a breeding place in Heilungkiang Province, China. On the other hand, four hooded cranes that wore leg rings banded in a breeding place in the Bikin basin in the Soviet Union, were found in Izumi City, Kagoshima, Japan last October.

A fact-finding report on some 14 kinds of scarce birds was made at the symposium. Among these 14 kinds of scarce birds were hooded cranes, Manchurian cranes, white-naped cranes, white bellied black woodpeckers, swinhoe's egret and Chinese mergansers.

Naturai Protection Body & Natural Conservation Areas of the DPRK

Black dots indicate Natural Conservation Areas of the DPRK.

DPRK Natural Protection Federation

Founded on Nov. 29, 1959 as the Association of Korea Garden Association

September 1963

Admitted to a member of the International Union for Conservation of Natural Resources

March 1965

Renamed the DPRK Natural Protection Federation

Founded the animal association, plants association, garden association, forest association, mineral resources association under its federation

Natural Conservation of the DPRK

At present there are seven (more than 7,500 *chongbo* area—one *chongbo* approximately one hectare) natural protection areas including the Mt. Paekdu natural protection area. In addition, there are 15 animal protection areas including a white-bellied black woodpecker protection area; six snowy herons and herons breeding protection areas; six murres breeding protection areas; 14 plant protection areas; four mineral resources protection areas; and others.

*The Law on Protection of Environment was adopted at the Fifth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held on April 7-9 last year.

The law mentions the conservation and creation of natural environment and attaches the importance on natural environment protection by forming areas and special protection areas on a national scale.

EDITORIAL

Team Spirit 87 Shows Actual US Intentions

A spokesman for the U.S.-"ROK" Combined Forces Command on Jan. 22 announced that the United States and south Korea would hold the Team Spirit 87 joint military exercises from Feb. 19 through early May. Although the CFC spokesman did not give details about the planned exercises, more than 200,000 American and south Korean soldiers and a U.S. aircraft battle group belonging to the U.S. Seventh Fleet are to participate in the drill, the 12th since it began in 1976.

Such a large-scale military exercise as Team Spirit 87 is sure to deteriorate the already tense situation on the Korean Peninsula, having a serious impact on the relationship between Pyongyang and Seoul.

The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in early January proposed "north-south high-level political and military talks" for the purpose of easing political confrontation and relaxing military tensions.

The DPRK holds that such talks would contribute greatly to creating a favorable atmosphere for national reunification.

Washington and Seoul replied to Pyongyang's peace efforts with these provocative joint military exercises.

The DPRK in 1984 proposed three-way talks between itself, the United States and south Korea to reduce tensions in Korea and preserve a durable peace in that part of the world.

Through the talks, it wants to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and adopt a declaration of nonaggression between north and south Korea.

Pyongyang holds that these two questions are the basis of a fundamental guarantee of peace in Korea.

Furthermore, it expressed a willingness to discuss any tension-reducing measures to be proposed by Washington and Seoul in the three-way talks.

At first, Washington said inter-Korea dialogues should come first. When north-south talks at various levels were proceeding smoothly, the United States staged Team Spirit 86, rupturing the north-south dialogues. This year, when the DPRK proposed north-south high-level political and military talks, the United States announced the plan to hold Team Spirit 87.

The conduct of the United States shows that it has no interests in reducing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and in a negotiated solution to Korea's reunification.

The holding of such a large-scale military exercise will not have a constructive influence upon the tense situation in Northeast Asia.

We urge Washington and Seoul to cancel the provocative Team Spirit 87 and to sit at the negotiating table to discuss the fundamental issues concerning peace in Korea.

Profile of Mr. Pak U Il,

Mr. Pak U Il, head of the DPRK zoologist delegation to the symposium.

Vice chairman of the Institute of Zoology of the DPRK Academy of Sciences, 42 years old.

He was one of repatriates who have visited Japan recently. He repatriated to the homeland when he was a 1st grader of the Tokyo Korean Junior and Senior High School. He had lived in Tokyo and used to attend the animal park in Ueno, Tokyo. He is a graduate of Kim Il Sung University and majored in zoology. He was the first DPRK ornithologist to visit Japan.

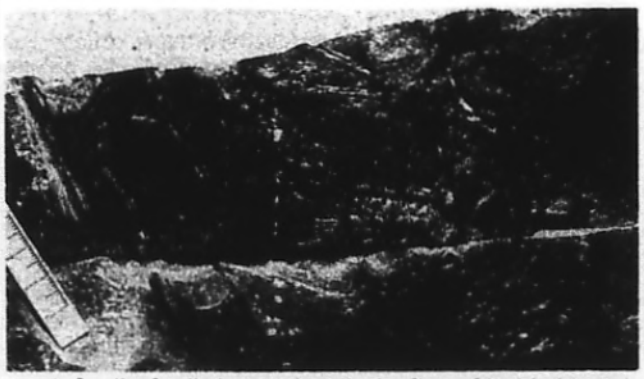
As to his work, he put emphasis on the importance of natural protection, saying, "Natural protection should be continued generation after generation." He has continued researching white-bellied black woodpeckers, swinhoe's egret and other rare birds. He is concurrently general secretary of the animal protection association of the Natural Protection Federation, which is managed by scholars and administrators.

In the DPRK, he said, proposals given by scholars on setting up new protection districts have been realised by the efforts of the administrative agencies in the DPRK.

What he is concerned now about is cranes. Some 8,000 white-naped cranes and hooded cranes stay over in the coldest seasons in Izumi City, Kagoshima, Japan. They come from the Soviet Union and China via the Korean Peninsula. Its too tight for these cranes to stay Izumi City alone. From the view point of natural conservation, to distribute these cranes is an issue for East Asian countries. Only a partial cranes stay over around the DMZ on the peninsula. If they were distributed in that area, it would contribute to keeping peace on the peninsula as well.

He was pleased that the symposium was held earlier than expected with the confirmation of the flyway, which has not been made clear for long time. This may help promote the protection of the natural environment in each country. Through the continuous effort of information exchanges, he hoped, researchers and personages concerned with administrive work on natural protection of both countries can do free travel like migration.

150 Mil.-Yr.-Old Tailed Pterodactyl Fossil Found in DPRK, First in Asia



Fossil of tailed pterodactyl found in the DPRK (Rodong Sinmun on Jan. 18)

A fossil of tailed pterodactyl, the first of its kind in Asia, has been found in Korea.

Discovered 40 meters underground in Paekto-*ri* of Sinuiju, a border city on the west coast of Korea, some time ago, the fossil is of great value in the world.

Fossils of pterodactyl have so far been found only in some countries of the world. Among them fossils of tailed pterodactyl which is regarded to have lived tens of millions of years earlier than tailless pterodactyl have been discovered only in a few European countries.

The fossil of pterodactyl discovered in our country is estimated to be fossilized 150,000,000 years ago. It has some characteristics in its skeleton compared with the fossilized pterodactyls unearthed in other areas.

Above all, the length of its body is short and the tail is long. The head is short and high, and the hind legs are very long, paws being like those of beasts of prey.

There are 26 joints in the backbone and 9 pairs of ribs. And the bones of wings consist of two phalanges.

The wing bones of fossillized pterodactyls found in other areas consist of 4 phalanges. This proves that pterodactyls lived in the DPRK much longer than those found in other areas.

Fossils of First Land Plants 400 Mil. Yrs. Old

Fossils of first land plants were discovered in the stratum belonging to the Devonian period about 400 million years ago in Hyonnae-*ri*, Kumchon County, North Hwanghae Province, Korea, recently.

Those plant fossils mainly belong to the psilopsida family, others belonging to spenopsida and ptoropsida families.

Psilopsida is a good material showing the process of evolution in which the higher plant kingdom moved from the sea to the land.

The plant fossils discovered this time carry great weight in the studies of the biological world 400 million years ago in Korea and East Asia.

Noli—Folk Game of Korea

4) Nol-ttwigi

(Continued from No. 1,319 issue of The People's Korea)

Nol-ttwigi is a traditional game of Korea handed down from the Koryo Period (918-1392) which is played by young women mainly on New Year's day. It is like seesaw. Two persons stand one each on both sides of a long board under which is laid a bundle of straws. They jump up and down by turns while increasing speed. The jumping height reaches 2-3 meters. It is a traditional sight on the Korean street on New Year's day – beautifully spruced-up Korean girls and women playing *nol-ttwigi*, with their colorful *kin-chima* (long skirt) waving and fluttering gracefully in the wind.

It is played on New Year's day because it is regarded as a proper outdoor game for chilly winter and it provides good occasion for all the woman in a village to gather and enjoy. Therefore it is also a game for friendship and solidarity among neighbors.

It is said that as women in the old feudal period couldn't go freely out of their houses, they put a board near the walls of their houses and played *nol-ttwigi* so that they could have a glimpse of the world outside the wall.

Others say it was an idea of a woman whose husband was imprisoned unjustly by feudal beaurocrats. As she was worried about him, she brought a board near the wall of the prison and jumped up and down to look inside.

These stories don't tell exactly when the game began to be played. But through them we can see the game has a long history and it strongly reflected the living of Korean women in those days, their hatred for the yoke of feudal society and their hopes for freedom.

Nol-ttwigi is characteristic of the Korean nation.

A book called *"Chungsan Chonshinrok"*, which was written by So Bo Gwang who visited Ryukyu in 1792 as an envoy of the Qing dynasty of China (1636-1912) says, "Women play ball and *panmuhui (nol-ttwigi)* on New Year's day. They put a long board on a wooden pillow and two women stood one each on both sides of the board facing each other. When one jumped up, the other jumped down..."

On *"panmunhui"* of Ryukyu, Ryu Duk Kong says as follows in "Kyoto Journal". "Women in the village set a board on a bundle of straws and two of them stood one each on both sides of the board and began jumping up and down. Bells with which their clothes were decorated jingled. When they got tired, they just stopped jumping. It is called *'nol-ttwigi'*. In Ryukyu, they give the name *panmu* to the dance on a board which is similar to Korea's *nol-ttwigi* board."

Nol-ttwigi with a long history and tradition once declined owing to the obliteration policy of Korea's national culture by the Japanese imperialists. But now it has been completely restored as one of the national games and has developed as a popular recreation pursuit and as a national sports game of Korean women.

(Concluded)

Legend

The Sound of a Flute on Mt. Chuijok

There is a mountain called Chuijok in Chongdo in the south Korean province of North Kyongsang.

About 300 years ago there lived at the base of the mountain a young man named Song with his wife. He was a forest ranger. At the time the mountain was densely covered with huge trees, and bad people would come to the mountain clandestinely and fell trees right and left. Therefore, the government kept a ranger there to strictly ban random tree-felling. Song inspected the mountain every day all the year round, to prevent illegal felling.

His wife had an unusual skill of playing a flute. After her husband left for the mountain in the morning, she would take care of household chores, and when the sun set behind the western mountains and dusk gathered in the yard, she would play the flute to welcome her husband home. The clear tone of the flute that flowed over the lonely mountainous place eased Song of the day's fatigue.

One evening the wife put down her flute and in a worried tone of voice told the husband: "I was told that the thugs who came here last year appeared today in the village down below."

"They are here again?" the husband said, a trifle surprised, but he pretended to be calm in front of his wife and asked her not to worry.

That night the snow fell heavily and the whole mountain was buried deep in snow, and the couple went to bed early and fell asleep soon. Late at night the wife was awakened by a great noise coming from outside the gate. Suddenly a voice shouted, "Open the gate! Open the gate!" and there were banging sounds at the gate.

"Husband, the thugs must be here," said the wife in a trembling voice. The rattling sounds of swords and spears were heard. Then came the sound of the gate being smashed.

"Who is it?" the husband leaped out into the yard when a pack of thugs rushed in.

"How outrageous you are! Breaking my gate in the dead of night," Song roared.

The raiders began to search the whole house. Some of them went up the mountain and felled trees with axes. A melee continued for quite a while between the master and the gangsters. As Song tried to evade the sword of the chieftain of the gang, the thugs came to the aid of their chief and surrounded Song and fell on him. The chief's sword flashed over Song's head. With an agonizing cry Song collapsed. The gang of thugs fled with the felled trees and the things they had robbed.

After the death of her husband the wife did not play on the flute. She became ranger by the will of her husband.

Time rolled away and came another winter. White snow covered the mountain again.

One night after the woman was asleep, there was a noisy shout outside: "Open the gate, open the gate!"

The woman burned with an urge to avenge her husband. She decided to have a showdown and unsheathed a big sword which she had kept ready for emergency.

The thugs broke the gate and swarmed in.

"You, enemy of my husband, let's fight!" shouted the young widow and fought. Her sword flashed in the dark and finally struck the chieftain. He fell with a shriek. Unfortunately, however, the woman died that night while fighting with so many thugs.

From then on, there was no ranger for Mt. Chuijok. But in a cloudy morning or a rainy night a forlorn sound of a flute was heard in this mountain. The neighbours said it was the sound of the flute played by Song's wife. Strange enough, whenever there was anybody who felled trees illegally in the mountain, a huge rock would roll down from the summit and crushed the criminal to death. Hence no one dared to cut trees randomly. The villagers said Song and his wife were watching the mountain even after their death and prevented random felling of trees. They named this mountain Mt. Chuijok (or Flute Playing) as the sound of a flute came out of it.

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

Agreements, Accords between DPRK And Foreign Countries (Dec. 17, 1986–Jan. 7, 1987)

1986

Dec. 17

* A plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between the governments of the DPRK and the GDR for 1987-90 was signed in Berlin.

Dec. 19

* A plan for inter-governmental scientific and technological cooperation between the DPRK and the Bulgarian People's Republic in 1987-90 was signed in Sofia.

Dec. 22

* A working plan for scientific cooperation in 1987-88 between the Academies of Sciences of Korea and China was signed in Beijing.

Dec. 23

* A protocol on the exchange of commodities for 1987 between the governments of the DPRK and the Republic of Cuba was signed in Pyongyang.
* A protocol on the delivery of commodities and payments for 1987 between the governments of Korea and Romania was signed in Pyongyang.

Dec. 26

* An agreement on mutual publication between the Science and Encyclopedia Publishing House of Korea and the Soviet "Russian Language" Publishing House was signed in Pyongyang.

Dec. 29

* An agreement on news exchange and mutual cooperation between the Korean Central News Agency and the Ethiopian News Agency was signed in Addis Ababa.

1987

Jan. 7

* A 1987-88 exchange plan between the foreign ministries of Korea and the Soviet Union was signed in Moscow.

(KCNA)

Pyongyang Urges Tokyo to Return Ship

A ship belonging to a DPRK port on Jan. 20 drifted to a Japanese port, due to an engine trouble after it had left its home port on Jan. 14 with 11 persons aboard.

The ship "J-Dan 9082" belonging to Chongjin Port, North Hamgyong Province of the DPRK, left Chongjin Port in the direction of Wonsan on Jan. 14, but failed to reach the destination due to the engine trouble and drifted in the East Sea of Korea (the Sea of Japan) and was towed to Tsuruga Port, Fukui Prefecture, Japan, on Jan. 20.

The Japanese authorities are reportedly considering as of Jan. 31 to send them to south Korea or other third countries, contrary to their earlier decision to send the ship out to the open sea immediately after the engine was repaired.

The ship and the 11 persons, including four teenagers, have been under the protection of the authorities of the Maritime Safety Agency of Japan. Earlier reports said the MSA decided to send the ship out to the open sea after the troubled engine was repaired. It was the authorities' intention to treat the issue as an "emergency refuge" caused by the engine trouble, some reports said.

According to several sources, the Japanese local newspaper Fukui Shimbun in its Jan. 24 issue quoted those aboard the ship as saying, "We are homesick and we would like to return to our Republic."

Meanwhile, the south Korean authorities, arbitrarily concluding that the shipwreck was an act of "defection", demanded that the Japanese authorities send them to south Korea. They urged Japan on Jan. 26 to confirm their will to "defection" and send them to south Korea immediately.

The DPRK side, however, demanded the Tokyo authorities send back the ship and the persons aboard safely to the country.

The spokesman for the General Bureau of Marine Transportation of the Commission of Transport of the DPRK on Jan. 23 published a statement urging the Tokyo authorities to send them back to the DPRK unconditionally, in accordance with "international law and usage" and "with the principles of humanitarianism and reciprocity."

"It is unthinkable and impossible in any case to send to any other place but their home those people who drifted to Japan against their will, while their ship was adrift on the sea, failing to reach their destination due to an engine trouble," he stressed in the statement.

On Jan. 24, Son Song Pil, chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK sent a letter to Hayashi Keizo, chairman of the Japan Red Cross Society, proposing that the Red Cross delegates of Korea and Japan have talks in connection with the issue.

Criticizing Tokyo's attitude on the matter, he said in the letter, "I think it necessary for the Red Cross delegates of the two countries, the parties concerned, to have talks so that this issue may not be used for an ulterior political purpose but be solved according to international law and usage and on the principles of humanitarianism and reciprocity to contribute to the development of good neighbour friendly relations between the Korean and Japanese people."

Meanwhile, the Korean Central News Agency on Jan. 25 made public a statement, strongly criticizing the Japanese and south Korean authorities for "a wicked attempt to use the question which should be settled in a humanitarian way for their foul political purpose."

"If our distressed crewmen are taken to south Korea and are used as political tools by the south Korean authorities, the Japanese authorities would get deeply involved in further aggravating the present north-south confrontation and be unable to evade the responsibility for the ensuing consequences," the statement warned.

It also criticized the south Korean authorities' "sinister plot to use our distressed crew in aggravating the north-south confrontation."

Ignoring these criticism and warnings, the Japanese authorities on the night of Jan. 28 let the crew of the ship have an "interview" with south Koreans.

"Japan's one-sided action is a manifestation of its hostile policy toward the DPRK," said Kim U Jong, chairman of the Association for the Promotion of Korea-Japan Friendship, in a press statement issued on Jan. 29 in connection with the Japanese authorities' action.

"Considering that such indiscreet and wicked behavior of the Japanese authorities will lay a serious obstacle to the development of the good neighbourly friendship and relations between the Korean and Japanese peoples, I demand them to explain this at once and make an apology for it," he stressed.

Chongryun Denounces Japanese and S. Korean Authorities

Meanwhile, Pak Chae Ro, a vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), on Jan. 29 denounced the Japanese authorities' attitude to the "shipwreck issue" as a "violation of international law and usage" in a press conference held in Tokyo.

Referring to the fact that the Japanese authorities forced the crew of the ship to stay long enough to "use them for political purpose" contrary to their earlier decision, and let them have a meeting with the south Korean authorities, the vice chairman of Chongryun said, "Though the crew of the ship have been expressing their will to return to their country as early as possible and the Japanese authorities made it clear that it was not a 'defection' case, the Japanese have reversed their attitude and now intend to use the issue as a political plot against the DPRK".

"We again demand the Japanese authorities take an adequate measure to send them back to their country immediately in accordance with international law and usage and with the principles of humanitarianism and reciprocity, and not to use them for a political plot of the Chun Doo Hwan regime," he added.

Earlier on Jan. 26, the CSC of Chongryun published a statement urging Tokyo to send back the crew and the ship to the DPRK.

(Continued from page 1)

and military talks between north and south is on the order of the day. This proves that the north-south direct dialogues the United States has called for is a lie and, in actuality, it does not want any dialogue," the statement said.

According to a telephone message signed by Rear Adm. William T. Pendley, Seoul intends to invite the military authorities from the DPRK and China and some Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission members to "observe the Team Spirit 87 exercise."

The Rodong Sinmun commentary commented on the "invitation" as follows. "How could the tension be reduced by inviting us to observe the offensive exercises staged with nuclear warheads aimed at our Republic? It is an insult to us and heightens the tension."

S. Korea 1987: The Countdown Has Begun

By Paul Calvey

(Continued from the previous issue)

The crackdown has also been imposed on student movements. On Oct. 31 some 8,000 riot police stormed Konkuk University and took away 1,525 students. Although large-scale student arrests have been a regular feature of 1986, this was the largest student round up ever in south Korea.

Chun is so afraid of the opposition that on Nov. 29 he had 80,000 riot police mobilized to prevent a rally calling for constitutional changes. Between 500,000 and 1 million people were expected to attend.

In addition many prominent and influential members of the democratic movement have been arrested at random over the last year.

If unrest in south Korea continues, it is highly likely that the Chun regime will openly stamp out the opposition with the military and become an openly totalitarian regime without the pretense of being democratic.

Although Chun has said that he will step down in 1988, there is a large body of opinion and a great deal of evidence to suggest that this megalomaniac will attempt to hold onto the reins of power and continue to control the country from the shadows.

Indeed, the present construction, that Chun is so reluctant to change, is designed to restrict popular control of the assembly and ensure the election of a president handpicked by Chun himself.

The constitution under which Chun was elected in February 1981, was drafted in secrecy and put to a referendum without any change for public debate. His almost unanimous election by a rigged "electoral college" was a foregone conclusion.

Chun's unwillingness to step down has already been illustrated by his reported request to the U.S. assistant secretary of state that his term of office be extended for an extra year.

We must remember that although Chun talks about a peaceful transfer of power, he seized control by a military coup and has enforced dictatorial military rule ever since.

The only solution to south Korea's problems is the abolition of Chun's corrupt military rule and the establishment of a fair and honest democratic system of government.

South Koreans have waited too long and struggled too hard for their efforts to be swept under the carpet once again. If armed insurrection and bloodshed are to be avoided then now is the time for democracy.

There is growing anti-American sentiment in south Korea, particularly among students, and many believe that "the United States put Chun in power" and so is responsible for his dictatorship.

Although this is debatable, American support for the dictatorship is not. Last May, Secretary of State George P. Shultz, tongue in cheek, praised Chun's progress towards democracy and refused to meet Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam. American support for Chun was further confirmed as recently as Sep. 16, when the newly appointed U.S. Ambassador James R. Lilley stressed the priority of security over democracy.

American assistance has allowed the military to become the most powerful institution in south Korea, with political power being held by the military for the last 26 years. Successive military dictators have been warmly accepted by the U.S. on the grounds that "stability and national security" are more important than democracy.

However, since the Korean War, the bulk of south Korean military forces have been theoretically under the operational control of the American commanding general.

Let's face it, Chun is an American puppet being used by Washington to do its dirty work. The U.S. has the power to stop the inhumanity that is happening in south Korea if it wishes. If it is going to maintain the credibility of its allies, as a defender of democratic principles, then this is a course of action that it must consider.

It is up to the rest of the world to put pressure on the Americans so that they will force Chun to stop his tyrannical treatment of the democratic movement. A shift to democratic rule would strengthen south Korea and benefit American interests in the long run.

Action Now

Three wars have already been fought over Korea in the last 100 years and if American policies do not change, it looks as though history is going to repeat itself once more, with Korea being the helpless victim.

It is obvious that the U.S. has no intention of reducing its military presence in and around Korea and as a consequence it appears that the U.S. is prepared to allow the democratic movement to be thrown to the wolves.

The cards are heavily stacked against the democratic movement in south Korea. The NKDP and its associated organizations believe in peaceful protest and have demonstrated this on numerous occasions over the last year by confronting guns and tear gas, armed only with slogans.

In contrast, the government has a powerful army and police force fully capable of running a totalitarian state.

It seems unlikely that the democratic movement will be able to survive if Chun continues trying to crush it in 1987.

Time is running out for Korea. A solution to the problems must be found within the next two years. As an independent analyst it seems clear to me that democracy must be given an outlet in south Korea and the reunification issue taken seriously.

Only a complete change of stance by the U.S. will stop the countdown to nuclear war which is already well underway. **(End)**

Paul Calvey is a British expert in international affairs. He works in Hong Kong.

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